

— Volume 3, No. 19 —

Friday, May 9, 1997

THE Talon

OPERATION JOINT GUARD, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA



SERVING THE SOLDIERS OF TASK FORCE EAGLE

Non-lethal rounds



Spc. Sean Mityga, Tactical Psychological Operation Team 401, 11th PSYOP Battalion, along with Meho Redzovic, an interpreter, distribute magazines to the locals.

Photo By Spc. Janel R. George

Inside

- STRANGE TRIVIA II ... 2
- BRAZILIAN VET 3
- PENCILS FOR PEACE . 4
- DAWGS OF WAR .. 6-7
- RETURN TO NORMAL .. 8
- MP DOG DEMO 9
- BRCKO BUS STONED .. 10

By Spc. Janel R. George
129th MPAD

CAMP BEDROCK — Keeping the peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina requires more than superior fire power, tanks and helicopters.

Members of the Tactical Psychological Operation Team 401, 11th PSYOP Battalion, from Washington, D.C., are using pamphlets, magazines and radio announcements to help preserve the peace here.

"In a way, we're like the artillery,"

said Sgt. 1st Class Mark Gonzales, team noncommissioned officer in charge. "We fire non-lethal rounds in the form of pamphlets and magazines that encourage our target audiences to comply with the Dayton Peace Accord."

PSYOP's overall mission is to disseminate truthful information to foreign audiences to encourage them to take actions that support the unit commanders.

See PSYOP page 12

Strange but true trivia II

Isaac Asimov is the only author to have a book in every Dewey-decimal category.

The most common name in the world is Mohammed.

Only one person in two billion will live to be 116 or older.

In the last 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.

Babies are born without knee caps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2-6 years of age.

The highest point in Pennsylvania is lower than the lowest point in Colorado.

Nutmeg is extremely poisonous if injected intravenously.

If you have three quarters, four dimes, and four pennies, you have \$1.19. You also have the largest amount of money in coins without being able to make change for a dollar.

The first Ford cars had Dodge engines.

Michael Jordan makes more money from Nike annually than all of the Nike factory workers in Malaysia combined.

No NFL team which plays its home games in a domed stadium has ever won a Super Bowl.

Cat's urine glows under a black light.

It takes about a half a gallon of water to cook macaroni, and about a gallon to clean the pot.

In the 80's, an IBM compatible computer wasn't considered a hundred percent compatible unless it could run Microsoft's Flight Simulator.

Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors.

The name Wendy was made up for the book "Peter Pan."

The first toilet ever seen on television was on "Leave It To Beaver".

UP FRONT -- GETTING IN STEP, STANDARDS REVIEW III

Now that we have the right pieces in place in garrison, let's talk about 'gear' -- CTA 50-901, individual equipment. What we've been attempting to do in the division is achieve a standard look for both Load Carrying Equipment and Load Bearing Vest.

Because the majority of us have LCE, I'll address that first. We wear all the standard components; pistol belt, suspenders, ammunition pouches (M16 or 9mm), first aid pouch, compass (mandatory for leaders), two canteens, cups and covers, ear plugs with case, kevlar helmet, cover and band. We also authorize wearing of a knife. This knife must be a folding type with the blade not exceeding four inches, (a leatherman or gerber style). No rambo or hunting knives.

Nothing fancy on assembly -- both ammo pouches in front, one canteen on each hip, first aid packet on right front, and compass on left front. The knife is worn on the right side next to the canteen, (front side). Sew on rank and name strip is preferred on the kevlar cover and band.

If you are one of many soldiers



with LBV, the same criteria as stated above applies except for wearing of ammo pouches. You do not wear them with the LBV.

There are many other items that are or could be worn. They are the protective mask, flashlight, strobe light, gloves (black/

white work—snap link may be used to secure), pistol belt extension, flak vest, butt pack and night observation devices. These items are worn per unit standard operating procedures.

All the securing clips and adjusting straps on the pistol belt suspenders/LBV and the tail ends of the chin strap on the kevlar are taped with the dark green "duck tape".

My observation to date is everyone is in the ball park, so to speak, we just need to "adjust up" a little. Our pistol belt should fit snug (not tight) around the waist. Once buckled, the pistol belt will be horizontal to the ground. The belt will also be buckled when worn. Junior leaders, don't wait to be told, check your personnel out and let's get everyone looking right! We do this and we'll be "squared away." See you up front!!

Command Sgt. Maj. S. L. Kaminski
1st Infantry Division (Forward)

Leadership issue

As I approached the clearing barrel by the dining facility, I watched a second lieutenant improperly clear his weapon. He neared the barrel, unholstered his weapon and never stopped. I did not hear the slide being pulled back; the weapon was never pointed at the barrel.

Catching up with him, I asked him why he had not followed the proper procedures. He told me that he knew the weapon was clear.

This young soldier's parents, as well as the rest of the American taxpayers, pay me to determine the root causes of accidents and mishaps, thereby preventing future accidents.

The young officer in question had the appearance, demeanor, communicative skills, respect and bearing of a professional. The only thing that was missing was the awareness that setting the example, as a leader, is a 24-hour-a-day job.

In all activities, we must remember that we set the standard for others to follow. Pray that you will never hear the excuse from a soldier taking a shortcut: "I saw Officer/NCO whoever do it that way."

By Maj. Gary Spegal, 1st Infantry Division Safety Office

THE TALON

THE TALON is produced in the interest of the servicemembers of Task Force Eagle, headquartered at Eagle Base. **THE TALON** is an Army-funded newspaper authorized for members of the U.S. Army overseas, under the provision of AR 360-81. Contents of **THE TALON** are not necessarily the official views of, nor endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or Task Force Eagle. **THE TALON** is published weekly by the 1st Infantry Division (Task Force Eagle) Public Affairs Office, Eagle Base, Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina APO AE 09789, Telephone MSE 551-5230. E-mail: talon@pop1-email.5sigcmd.army.mil. Printed by PrintCom Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina. Circulation: 6,500.

1st Infantry Division Commander . . . Maj. Gen. Montgomery C. Meigs
Editor in Chief . . . Maj. William L. DuPont
364th MPAD Commander . . . Maj. Frank Partyka
OIC . . . 1st Lt. Robert M. Inouye
Editor . . . Sgt. William L. Geddes
Copy Editor . . . Spc. Terri Cook
1st Infantry Division PA NCOIC . . . Staff Sgt. Gregory W. Binford
Translator . . . Arijana Salihbasic

Read and pass along -- a Talon is a terrible thing to waste

International flavor



Photo by Staff Sgt. Vonny Rohloff

Spc. Luiz Zingra, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry, 2nd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, checks civilians for contraband while on guard duty.

**By Staff Sgt Vonny Rohloff
364th MPAD**

EAGLE BASE -- Serving on the Stabilization Force, U.S. soldiers work side by side with soldiers from other nations. For many this is their first experience working with someone from another country.

But for soldiers serving with Spc. Luiz Zingra, he brings international flavor to his unit daily. With seven years past experience in the Brazilian army, he is now an infantry soldier in the United States Army. Zingra belongs to Company C, 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry, 2nd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division.

Last July, Zingra informed his family in Mogi Mirim, Brazil, of his plans to join the U.S. Army. They were concerned. "My mother didn't like it," he said. "They know the United States always deploys to other countries, and the U.S. Army is for real and not just for drill and ceremony like the Brazilian army," Zinger said. "I said trust me, I know what I am doing."

Zingra joined the Army at the rank of specialist, not because of past military experience but because of education. "The recruiter said you're going to start as an E-4 because you have a college degree," he said. "For me that was a surprise."

"Here, my position in the squad is rifleman," he said. "We have grenadier, we have a SAW (squad automatic weapon) gunner, and I am a rifleman. I like to be outside and see what is going on."

As a platoon sergeant in the Brazilian army, he went out on patrols, often in wooded areas of Brazil. He worked with maps and provided some reconnaissance in the area. "The Brazilian army works like a police force," Zingra said. "Their presence would say to Brazilians, 'The army is here people, don't do something wrong in the area.'"

"We knew we were not able to deploy any of our army because of the economic situation," Zingra said. "The Brazilian army is well-trained physically but the weapon system is still kind of weak in comparison (to the U.S. Army)."

While working every day as a soldier, Zingra still found time to attend night school at nearby University of Santa Cecilia and earn a degree.

Disillusioned and frustrated with high inflation, the economic situation and political corruption within Brazil, the young man decided to leave. "Instead of being here and doing bad things, let's have an adventure, let's go out and see different stuff," he said to a friend. "Let's try it."

Zingra chose the United States, "the granddad, the big dad to everyone outside the United States," he said.

"One day I was walking down the street in Manhattan and I saw some guy dressed in a uniform," Zingra said. "I got a feeling to be in the military... and I said, 'why not.'" To join the military one does not need to be a U.S. citizen, just a legal resident.

The training for the infantry was very similar in both Brazil and United States. Tactical movement is the same. "Here we say squad, there we called it combat group," Zingra said. Both consist of nine soldiers.

Zingra learned from working in both armies. "It is an exchange of knowledge," he said. Zingra feels he could also share some of his knowledge. "It upsets me sometimes, no one came to me and said, 'Hey Zinger, how did you do that in Brazil.'"

"The weapons system is much better, the uniform is much better and the supply system is generally much better than Brazil," said Zingra. "But sometimes it is much more complicated here, too much paperwork to get something. And that's what makes this the Army."

Info briefs

Smoke grenade kills soldier

In the early morning of May 4th, five soldiers were injured and one soldier was killed when a smoke grenade accidentally went off in their quarters at the Modrica NORDPOL barracks in Multinational Division-North.

The soldiers suffered smoke inhalation injuries (pulmonary injuries) as a result of the incident.

The soldiers were unable to get out before smoke filled the room, killing one soldier, seriously injuring two soldiers and causing minor injuries to three of the soldiers.

The chemical in the smoke grenades that caused the damage is Phosphene.

Discharge consequences

Negligent discharge of a firearm is an offense punishable under Article 134, UCMJ. The maximum penalty upon conviction is forfeiture of two-thirds pay per month for three months, confinement for three months and reduction to E-1. If the commander elects to dispose of the offense by Article 15, UCMJ, the penalties are more limited, but may still result in an official record which will limit opportunities for retention, promotion and schooling. Even administrative actions for wrongful discharge of a firearm, such as an official letter of reprimand, can result in an end to an otherwise promising career.

The heat is on

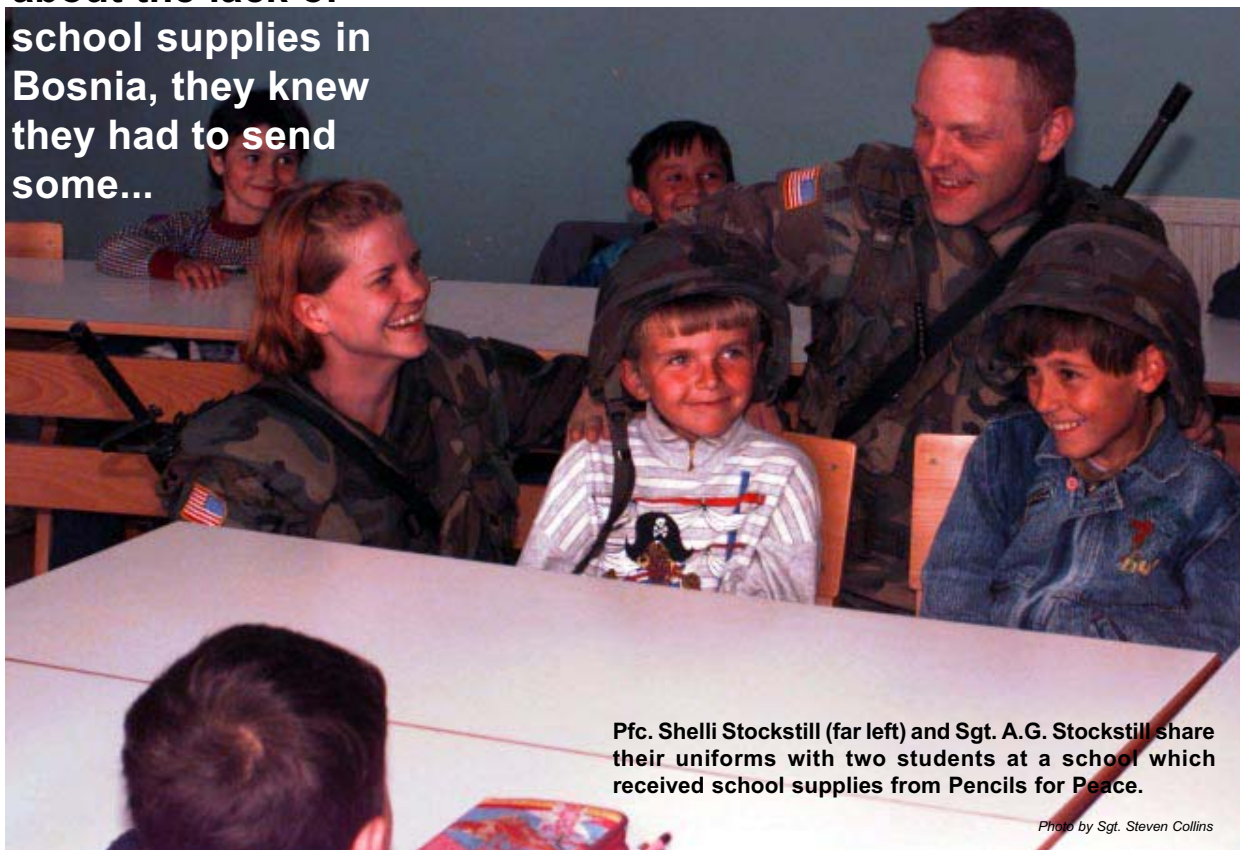
The warming weather increases the risk that soldiers will become heat casualties. To help prevent this soldiers should drink twice as much water as they normally do on warmer days. If it becomes too hot outside units should use a work/rest schedule. Soldiers should wear loose clothing.

Keeping in good physical condition helps to climatize and keep heat sickness away. As the temperature soars the heat categories will be implemented. Soldiers should be aware what category the temperature is in and act accordingly.

The use of ample amounts of sun-block will also help prevent heat injury.

**When KZEE
listeners heard
about the lack of
school supplies in
Bosnia, they knew
they had to send
some...**

Pencils for P



Pfc. Shelli Stockstill (far left) and Sgt. A.G. Stockstill share their uniforms with two students at a school which received school supplies from Pencils for Peace.

Photo by Sgt. Steven Collins

By Sgt. Steven Collins
129th MPAD

EAGLE BASE -- Last December, Sgt. A.G. Stockstill asked his mother to send him a few pencils to give to children he would see on routine patrols around Eagle Base. Stockstill figured his mother, LaDonna Stockstill, would mail a few pencils in his weekly care package.

But Stockstill, an early warning systems operator of the 4th Battalion, 3rd Air Defense Artillery, underestimated his mother's goodwill and enthusiasm.

"If you want anything to happen, my mom will do it. But if you don't want it in a large quantity, don't ask her to do it," said Stockstill.

LaDonna, program director for KZEE radio in Weatherford, Texas, did as her son requested and sent a few pencils to Bosnia-Herzegovina — at final count, she helped collect nearly 66,000 pencils, as well as 3.2 tons of other school supplies. And through the efforts of the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Army, Air Force and Navy, those supplies were distributed to school districts in northern Bosnia-Herzegovina desperate for pencils, pens, paper and other supplies.

"This is for the kids," said Stockstill,

who organized the distribution with his wife, Pfc. Shelli Stockstill, also a member of 4th Bn., 3rd ADA. "There are kids on both sides of the (Zone of Separation) that are wanting to get the supplies. They are totally innocent in all of this."

Supplies were distributed on April 27-28 at three schools near Eagle Base, the headquarters camp for the American sector. The schools serve nearly 1,700 students on the Federation side of the ZOS. An equal amount of supplies will be distributed by the Russian Brigade to schools on the Republic of Srbska side of the ZOS.

This effort has been called "Pencils for Peace" and began a few months ago with a simple idea: giving pencils to children in need of even the most rudimentary learning tools. The impetus behind "Pencils for Peace" came after Sgt. Stockstill visited the refugee village of Jeginov Lug, located just southeast of Eagle Base. The refugees came from Srebrenica, a city all but destroyed during the war. Stockstill was appalled by the conditions he saw.

"These kids were truly impoverished and it really touched my heart," said Stockstill. "They were holding classes in the back half of a bombed-out building. I told my mom to send a couple of boxes of pencils, because they didn't have much of any-

thing."

LaDonna — described by her son as "caring" and "energetic" — took the idea a few steps further. Why send only a few pencils when the kids also need paper, books and other supplies? A local radio personality, LaDonna went on the air, calling for donations for the children in war-torn Bosnia-Herzegovina. Soon, the donations — ranging from pencils to cash — were rolling in. "The groundswell was incredible," said Sgt. Stockstill.

Before LaDonna knew what was happening, her Pencils for Peace had collected more than three tons of supplies. Getting the supplies from Texas to Bosnia-Herzegovina would be no easy task. But thanks to the efforts of many government agencies, the supplies were airlifted to Frankfurt and then to Eagle Base.

"We were able to airlift the supplies through the Denton Program, which allows the shipment of humanitarian supplies on military aircraft if there is space available," said Sgt. Stockstill. "It worked out that there was a flight from Fort Worth, Texas, to Europe and from there it was not hard to get the supplies to Bosnia."

Shelli, who works in the command and control element of the 4th Bn., 3rd ADA, was able to track the supplies from Texas

or Peace

to Europe to Bosnia-Herzegovina. She talked to the pilot of the aircraft before he left Texas to ensure the supplies would be loaded. She also contacted Ramstein Air Force Base in Germany to alert them that 3.2 tons of supplies were coming. The supplies arrived at Eagle Base on April 26.

"I had just gotten off the night shift on Saturday morning and was asleep for only an hour when the call came in that the supplies had arrived," said Shelli, a native of Pasadena, Texas. "But it was worth waking up for. I was definitely running on adrenaline."

The couple, with the help of other 4th Bn., 3rd ADA members, Air Force personnel and members of the 431st Civil Affairs Battalion, a U.S. Army Reserve unit from Arkansas, separated the shipment and followed through on the distribution. Over two days, the couple were able to personally hand out hundreds of pencils to children. One of the classes joined together in song to thank the Americans.

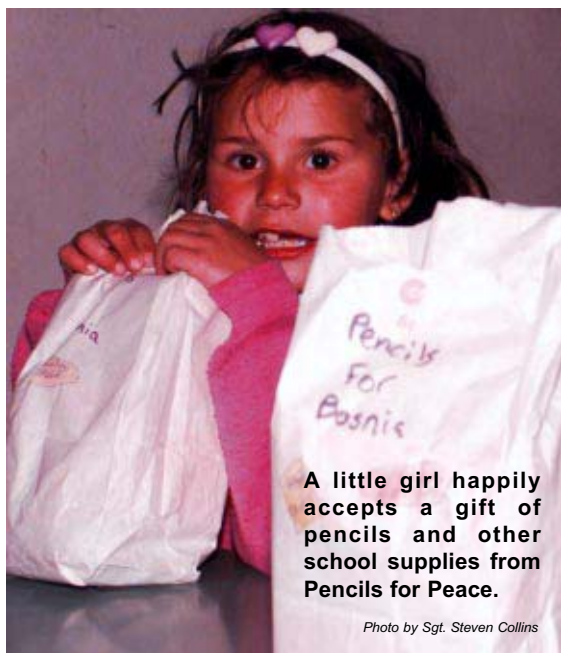
"It was very overwhelming. When they sang to us, it was hard not to cry your eyes out just to imagine that they were so happy under the circumstances," said Shelli. "I don't think you could walk into an American classroom and see kids that happy over something like this. It's great."

The school at Jeginov Lug, as well as two other schools, now have enough supplies to last for many months. The teacher at Jeginov Lug, Nastavhik Salic Ekrem, said his students will always remember the generosity of the Americans, especially the Texas woman who they have never met.

"For these kids, this is the most interesting thing to happen in their lives," said Ekrem. "They will never forget the Americans. We are really grateful for the supplies."

While the first mission of Pencils for Peace has been completed, the organization will continue to collect materials for other people in need. LaDonna will continue to collect supplies, probably next focusing on the needs of areas ravaged by floods in the Midwest.

"She's made the connections now and she will continue to do what she can to help," said Shelli.



A little girl happily accepts a gift of pencils and other school supplies from Pencils for Peace.

Photo by Sgt. Steven Collins

Making contacts

By Sgt. Steven Collins
129th MPAD

EAGLE BASE -- Visiting with people is a big part of Maj. Joe Smith's job in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Every week, Smith and the other members of the 431st and 486th Civil Affairs Battalions go throughout the area immediately outside the gates of Eagle Base, learning the mood of the local population.

The contacts Smith and his team, all members of the U.S. Army Reserve, have made since arriving in Bosnia-Herzegovina were important during the last week in April, when the school supplies collected by "Pencils for Peace" were distributed to schools in the vicinity of Eagle Base.

"We routinely go out to talk to individuals and are continually building rapport," said Smith, chief of the civil affairs team attached to the 4th Battalion, 3rd Air Defense Artillery. "We located the schools and determined which schools needed the supplies."

The civil affairs team helped Sgt. A.G. Stockstill and his wife, Pfc. Shelli Stockstill, both members of the 4th Bn., 3rd ADA, divide and distribute the school supplies which arrived from donors in Texas. The supplies were gathered by Sgt. Stockstill's mother, LaDonna, a radio personality in Weatherford, Texas.

"We were doing a routine patrol and discovered the refugee area (Jeginov Lug) just southeast of Eagle Base," said Smith, a supervisor in a semi-conductor manufacturing plant in Arkansas. "(Sgt. Stockstill) and I talked about bringing pencils to the school, which was in a bombed-out garage. Well, they got a lot more than one little package of pencils."

In all, Pencils for Peace collected 3.2 tons of supplies – pencils, pens, books and other school tools. Smith was called upon to help find the appropriate schools for the supplies. He and his team traveled throughout the area and located schools in Dubrave, an extended village on the north side of Eagle Base.

"There are two school districts in the area," said Smith. "The amount of supplies we delivered was just right for the nearly 1,700 students in the area."

For example, the Vukovije school in Dubrave, located about two miles from the east gate of Eagle Base, has 731 students, ranging in age from 7 to 15. During the war, the school was damaged and a Swiss humanitarian team rebuilt it. But school supplies are at a premium.

"There is not enough school supplies," said Asic Suljmon, principal. "This action (Pencils for Peace) is really helpful and will make friendship between Americans and Bosnians. This kind of help is always welcomed and always needed."

The civil affairs teams maintain constant contact with the school leaders, who are often community leaders as well. For example, the chancellor of one of the schools in Dubrave, Hasib Bandovic, is also the local leader, the equivalent of a mayor. Saban Alibasic, spokesman for the refugees at Jeginov Lug, has come to know Americans as friends.

"I'm happy you kept your word and returned. Everyday the children would ask 'When are the Americans coming?' The children will always remember the Americans," said Alibasic.

The goal of the more than 300 civil affairs soldiers in Bosnia-Herzegovina is to keep commanders apprised of the mood of the local population. If the teams work closely with local citizens, they can gather information which will help commanders plan operations, maintain security and enhance peacekeeping efforts.

Operations like Pencils for Peace give Smith and his team a deep sense of satisfaction. Although the Americans cannot help all the local citizens, the civil affairs teams feel a sense of accomplishment by meeting local citizens and making friends.

"There is a lot of stuff being sent to Bosnia from the states," said Smith. "We do what we can to help and we enjoy doing it."

'Dawgs ensur



From top left, clockwise, Pvt. Michael Pizzone, 1st Platoon, Company A, 82nd Engineer Battalion, in a kevlar-lined suit, prepares for a mine sweep near a bridge during a route reconnaissance mission... Staff Sgt. Joseph Saunders, Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 1st Infantry Division, and Cad, a military working dog, support the 82nd Eng. Bn. during reconnaissance by checking a bridge for explosives... Engineers from the 82nd Eng. Bn. inspect the inner structure of a bridge the mountains near Camp Demi... *Background* Sgt. Michelle Picard, HHC, 1st Inf. Div., and Cad check a bridge for explosives before the 82nd Eng. Bn. measure the structure.

s of War' re mobility

Story and photos by Spc. Susanne Aspley
364th MPAD

CAMP DEMI — Yugoslavia was the primary mine producer for the Russians before the Berlin Wall came down. This left the Balkan region with a large surplus of mines as the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina started. The former warring factions tapped into this deadly resource for years.

Sown with mines, the land throughout the region remains an unpredictable threat long after the fighting has ceased, according to 2nd Lt. John Kane, 1st Platoon leader, Company A, 82nd Engineer Battalion. As the engineers, also known as the 'Dawgs of War,' conduct their daily missions, mines and unexploded ordnance remain the number one safety concern.

"We have been concentrating on route and bridge reconnaissance missions," Kane said. "This ensures the mobility of SFOR troops along these routes. During our missions, we are not pretending or training to be in a minefield, we are actually in it."

The engineers work along the various routes mine proofing and ensuring the routes and structures are safe for travel. They are often assisted by military police dog handlers and their military working dogs.

During a recent bridge survey, military working dogs trained in explosive detection sniffed over the bridges for unexploded ordnance. The skilled dog handlers, Staff Sgt. Joseph Saunders and Sgt. Michelle Picard, both of Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 1st Infantry Division, worked with Cad and Rocky as they assisted the 82nd Eng. Bn.

"Our primary purpose is to survey what a bridge can handle," said Kane. "We make sure that if an M1A1 Abrams crosses a bridge, it doesn't fall into the gap. Safety is our first concern. First platoon provides its own perimeter security of the area of operation and are equipped with mine deflecting suits, mine detectors and probes."

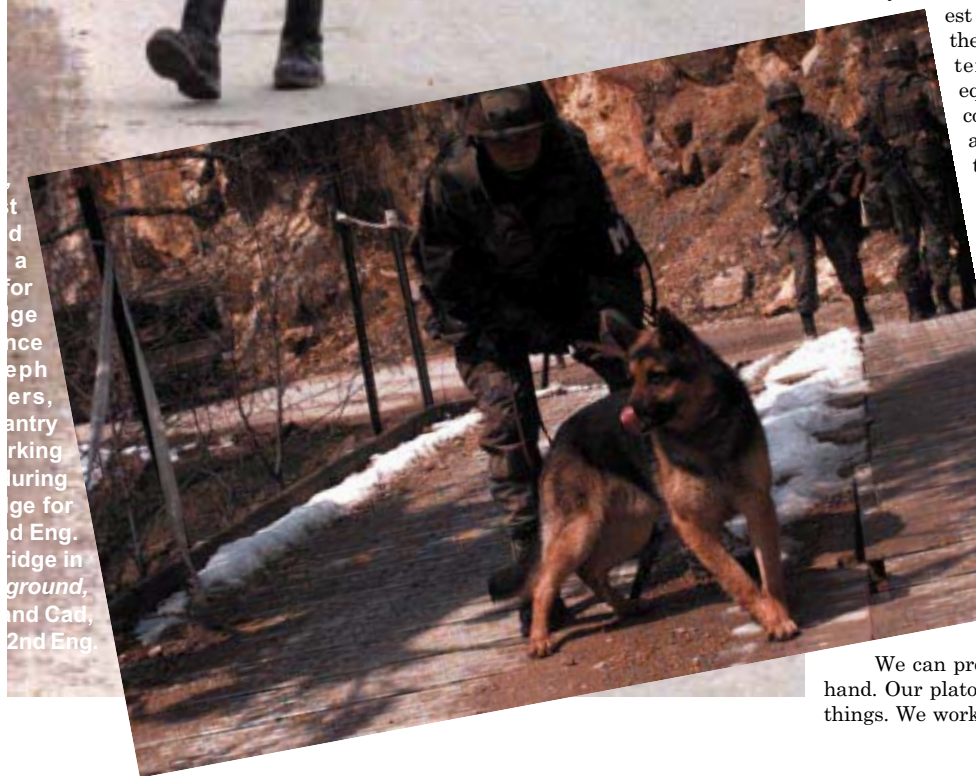
Engineers often need to go off the beaten path when taking measurements for the bridges. Following the military tradition of yore, Pvt. Michael Pizzone, the lowest ranking individual in the platoon, has the duty of donning a special suit and entering the questionable area first, equipped with a mine detector. The suit consists of kevlar-lined shirt and pants, along with special overboots designed to direct the blast outwards.

"The suit is designed to protect you from the blast" he said. When asked what shape he'd be in if he'd actually step on a mine, he answered, "Let's just say I'd be better than I'd be if I wasn't wearing one."

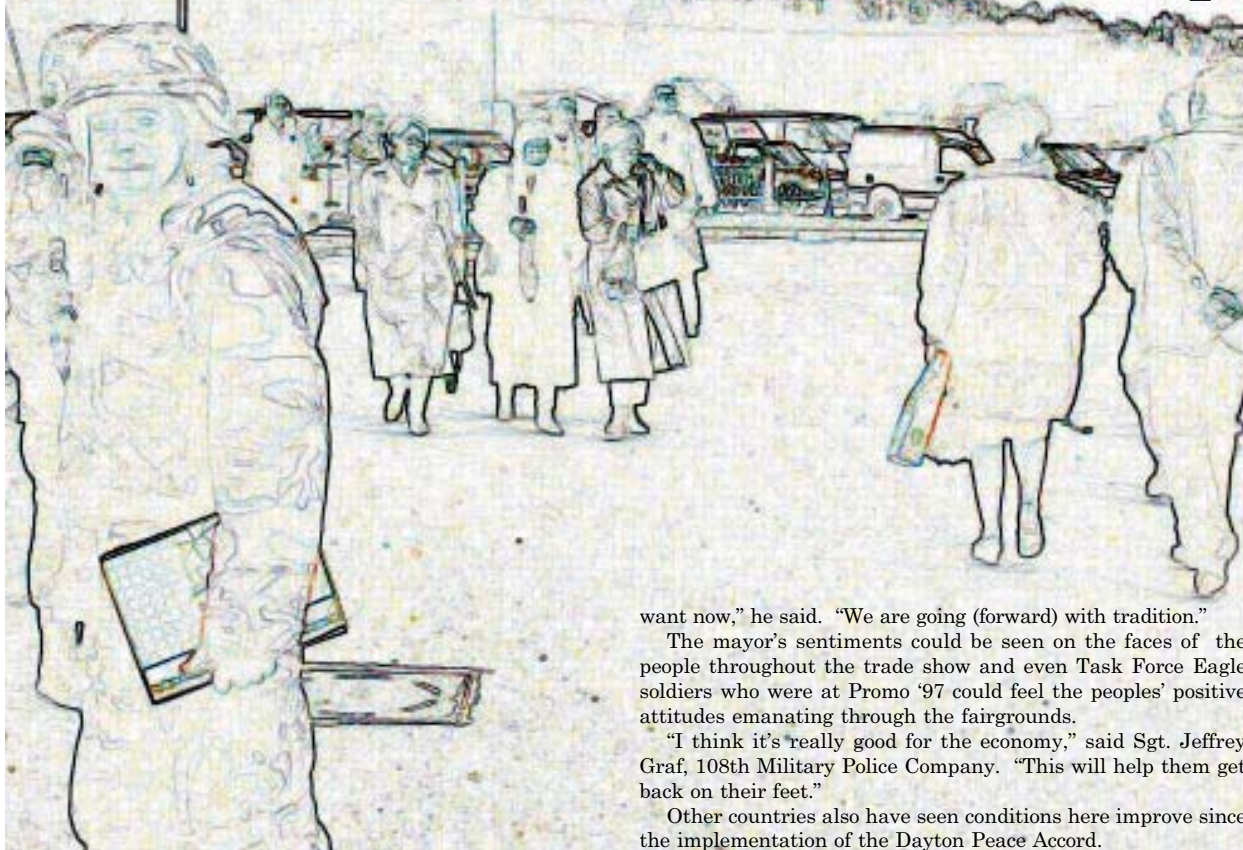
The 'Dawgs of War', stationed in Bamberg, Germany, also provide mobility and countermobility to SFOR troops and have the means to get troops out of Demi and through minefields should the situation arise.

"Hopefully that will not happen, but we are prepared," Kane said. "Also, we can provide blockades to prevent an influx of too many people, for example during a resettlement.

We can prevent a situation from getting out of hand. Our platoon is incredible and we can do great things. We work hard but enjoy it."



Return to normalcy



By Sgt. Chris Fletcher
1st Infantry Division PAO

**"We have seen that the love of commerce
can overcome the hatred of bigotry."**

**-- Maj. Gen. William L. Nash
Commander, 1st Armored Division**

TUZLA, Bosnia-Herzegovina — During the Transfer of Authority ceremony Nov. 10, 1996, Maj. Gen. William L. Nash, 1st Armored Division commander, commented on how the Arizona Marketplace had brought the three former warring factions together again and would only be the beginning of a return to normalcy in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Six months after the 1st Armored Division returned to Bad Kreuznach, Germany, his statement has come true.

Seventeen countries from all over the world have taken the first step towards helping this war-torn country reestablish itself as an economic power by participating in the International Spring Economy Meetings, also known as Promo '97, held here late last month.

The trade show featured eight festival tents stocked with wares including the latest in computers and cars for sale, cows and farming equipment and the latest home entertainment systems.

"This is a big thing," said Tuzla Mayor Selim Beslagic. "Shows like this never happened before the war." Beslagic added that the timing is right for Tuzla to make great leaps economically.

"The people of Bosnia are proving that we can do anything we

want now," he said. "We are going (forward) with tradition."

The mayor's sentiments could be seen on the faces of the people throughout the trade show and even Task Force Eagle soldiers who were at Promo '97 could feel the peoples' positive attitudes emanating through the fairgrounds.

"I think it's really good for the economy," said Sgt. Jeffrey Graf, 108th Military Police Company. "This will help them get back on their feet."

Other countries also have seen conditions here improve since the implementation of the Dayton Peace Accord.

Sahir-ul-Islam, vice chairman, Pakistan-Portugal Trade & Industry Committee, said this show is just one of many stepping stones for introducing Pakistani products here.

"One year ago, we saw the conditions in Bosnia improved — the fighting stopped and the process of rebuilding started," Islam explained. "Because of the normal conditions in Bosnia-Herzegovina, there are more business opportunities here and, as such, more of a temptation to come here."

The urge to open businesses here are exactly what Beslagic wants. He explained that he feels Promo '97 is a great opportunity to show other countries what Tuzla has to offer.

"What I expect personally is for two or three firms to cooperate with us and further business opportunities here," Beslagic explained.

Local entrepreneurs are also using Promo '97 to expand their businesses throughout Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Cilinkovic Mithat, owner of Pivara Tuzla, a local beer company, said that this fair has enabled him to renew contacts with buyers from all over the country -- contacts that were cut off before the war.

Mithat said that he envisions being able to produce items in quantities that will hopefully rival his production ability before the war and to expand his business in the near future.

While Promo '97 is just one instance of the rebuilding taking place all over Bosnia-Herzegovina, the event in itself is promising.

"It's still hard to tell, but I think things are looking better than it was when I got here," said Spc. Sean Mityga, 11th Psychological Operation Battalion. "You can see a noticeable change in the peoples' attitude. I feel this signifies a return to normalcy in Bosnia-Herzegovina."

Arijana Salihbasic, Task Force Eagle Public Affairs Office translator, contributed to this story.

Be not afraid

By Pfc. Wendy R. Tokach
129th MPAD

EAGLE BASE -- Military working dog, Lyka and military police dog handler Staff Sgt. Daniel O'Brien, Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 1st Infantry Division, were working as a team again. The bag lying on the ground needed to be inspected and this time they were under a little pressure.

Lyka had a very critical audience. The management of Brown and Root had expressed concern that the dogs were frightening the employees and that the employees didn't quite know what to do while being searched by the animals. The MPs knew something needed to be done to avoid any accidents.

One sniff of the bag and she sat down, the action that alerts her handler of something dangerous. This time it was 30 rounds of ammunition hidden carefully in the bottom of the bag. Her audience clapped and O'Brien awarded her with a pat on the head for a job well done.

Lyka, O'Brien, Spc. Colleen Neubert, HHC, 1st Inf. Div., and her dog, Fedor, held a demonstration for the Brown and Root employees. The main concern was to show the workers that unless they are doing something wrong they need not be afraid of the dogs.

Other areas covered during the demonstration were how the dogs do their searches, what procedures workers should follow while being searched and to show the workers the control the handler has over the dogs.

"We want to help the Bosnians understand what the military dogs do, what their job is," said Staff Sgt. Emanuel L. Snow, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Infantry Division, "We want to help them understand that they have nothing to be afraid of. We wanted to show the locals exactly what procedures to follow if they go through a gate and they are being inspected."

While some dogs can seem like they are vicious and out of control, another obedience test followed to show the workers that the handlers do in fact have the animals in check at all times. Neubert unhooked the leash and with a few short commands



Photo by Pfc. Wendy R. Tokach

Staff Sgt. Daniel O'Brien, Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 1st Infantry Division, and military working dog, Lyka conduct a demonstration for local national workers, who expressed concern about the military working dogs.

and hand signals showed that she controlled all of the dog's movements.

Walking through the crowd of workers Fedor stayed at her heel the entire time. Even standing a few feet away from the dog, Neubert used one hand signal, the dog stopped and sat down, eyes on the han-

need to teach them that when they see a dog, they shouldn't run, they shouldn't scream and don't make any suspicious movements."

"From my experience I just try and tell people to keep doing what they are doing and let the dog do the search," O'Brien

said. "If people just keep doing what they were doing the dog just ignores them. If they start to run, scream and get scared the dog gets really interested."

"If the dogs do get aggressive I think it has to do with the actions of the people," Neubert said. "Actually most of the time he's (Fedor) pretty mellow around people."

By the time the demonstration ended most of the workers

weren't moving away from the dogs and they knew they could stand within a reasonable distance of the dogs. If they ignore the dog, the dog will ignore them. The fear of the dogs was gone, replaced with respect for the animals who are just doing their job.

"If the dogs do get aggressive I think it has to do with the actions of the people. Actually most of the time he's (Fedor) pretty mellow around people"

— Spc. Colleen Neubert

dlar at all times. Impressed at the dog's obedience, the audience again applauded the handler and dog.

"We needed to show them even if the dogs seem aggressive, the handlers always have control of their dog," Snow said. "We

Brcko rocking the buses

By Spc. David Boe
364th MPAD

BRCKO, Bosnia-Herzegovina -- Capt. Kevin D. Hendricks stood outside the Office of the High Representative Building in Brcko and didn't like what he saw. The 30-year-old commander of Company D, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry, noticed a lot of young males picking up rocks and getting into cars and leaving the scene.

Realizing the men weren't collecting these rocks for purely geological interests, and having an idea where they might be going, Hendricks climbed back into his up-armored HMMWV and, with rest of his patrol, drove away from the scene at the OHR Building as well.

The "scene" Hendricks left had grown steadily since the arrival at the OHR Building that afternoon of two buses loaded with Bosnian Muslims, reporters and members of the Social Democratic Party. Having departed from a May Day festival and political rally in nearby Brka, they were there to meet with the recently-appointed Brcko supervisor, Robert Farrand, to discuss the gradual resettlement of the controversial city. Their visit was not welcome by some of Brcko's residents.

"The majority of the population of Brcko right now is a lot of refugees who have lost family members, and who have moved several times in the area," said Maj. John J. Bryant, 486th Civil Affairs Battalion out of Broken Arrow, Okla. "And they were pretty upset about the fact that there were Bosniacs in the area."

A crowd started to gather across the street from the OHR Building. Some yelled and gesticulated at the people getting off the buses. Just behind the crowd, Bryant and his team stood by, monitoring what was going on.

Along the streets, curious and anxious bystanders continued to gather, adding to the congestion at the small intersection. Over a dozen purple-uniformed Republic of Serbia police were spread out, keeping the crowds away and directing traffic. Behind them were International Police Task Force policemen and several U.S. soldiers from Task Force 1-77 out of McGovern Base.

The soldiers were part of the protective services detail tasked with protecting the task force commander, Lt. Col. James Greer, who had just arrived at the scene. Silently they watched as the crowd in front of them grew louder. From somewhere a rock was



A Serb woman threatens to throw a rock at buses carrying Muslims through Brcko as Maj. John Bryant, civil affairs, tries to dissuade her.

Photo by Spc. David Boe

thrown, cracking the front windshield of the lead bus.

"I got a little nervous," said Spc. Jeffery Buttici, 25, 1st Military Police Company. "There could have been some damage to both sides. It was tense, but we were just making sure the colonel was OK."

Buttici said prior to their convoy leaving McGovern, the commander had briefed them on what might happen that day.

"He said there's going to be some tense situations down there, and that made us open up our eyes a little bit more to what was going on," he said.

The tension grew as the passengers left the OHR Building and filed back onto the two buses. Bryant signaled to his team. It was time to go. Near him some women started picking up rocks and pieces of concrete and brandishing them in the air.

"These were displaced women from probably the area of Sarajevo who had lost family members, and they were upset," said Bryant. "They didn't want Bosniacs to live in the same area. They didn't want to see them there, in Brcko."

Through an interpreter, Bryant tried unsuccessfully to persuade the women to drop the rocks. There was nothing more he

See BUSES page 12

"We were constantly on our toes making sure we were doing our job correctly and acting professional at all times. We did what we needed to do."

— Spc. Jeffery Buttici



Turkish Brigade wins Ataturk International Peace prize



By the Numbers

As of May 2, 1997 the U.S. military has 7,334 male and 766 female soldiers deployed in theater for Operation Joint Guard.



Source: 1st Infantry Div. G-1

InfoGraph by Staff Sgt. Mark Geiger

The Turkish Brigade was awarded the Ataturk International Peace prize for their efforts to establish and maintain a permanent peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The award is the most prestigious peace award of the Turkish Republic. Pictured are two of the many events and services the Turkish Brigade performed in winning the award.

Top, a Turkish soldier and two children examine the three top entries in the painting portion of a series of contests the Turkish Brigade organized as a part of Childrens Day. **Above**, Turkish United Nations Protection Force soldiers work to establish a campsite for Muslim refugees.

BUSES

from page 10

could do. His mission was to follow the buses. As the buses drove down the street, Bryant's two HMMWVs turned around to follow. The major and his team didn't see the first few rocks that struck the buses as they left the area. Less than a mile away, Hendricks and his patrol had stopped at a point just south of the Brcko Bridge.

"As I arrived there - just minutes before the buses - I saw men with rocks in their hands gathering," said Hendricks. Getting out of his HMMWV, the commander started walking toward them, hoping he could either distract or stop them.

"There were several groups," he said. "The group I was heading to was the largest, and that was about 20 young males. A little bit further down the road was another group of about 10, and

a little bit further past us was yet another group of about 10 to 20, all with rocks, and all planning on hitting the buses."

As he neared the group of men, the buses appeared around the corner.

"As the buses came by they threw the rocks and then started chasing the buses, throwing rocks as they ran along beside them," said Hendricks. "After I realized I couldn't stop them from throwing the rocks, and they were not going to listen to me, the only actions I could really do was get my soldiers out of the way, observe what happened, and follow the buses through the rest of



A bus passenger holds out his hand to be bandaged by a U.S. soldier.

Photo by Spc. David Boe

the town to ensure nothing more serious happened on the way."

Nothing did. After leaving the city limits, the two buses stopped along route Arizona to assess the damage. Except for a few bumps and scrapes, no one was seriously injured. One bus made it through the gauntlet with only two windows broken, while the other had nearly all of its windows shattered.

Frustrated as he was with the incident, Hendricks said it could have been a lot worse had it not been for the professionalism of his men. "My soldiers reacted very well," said Hendricks. "They controlled themselves very well, considering that rocks were thrown all around them. They potentially could have felt threatened, but they controlled

themselves. There was no need for our soldiers to react any more than they did. It wasn't an SFOR role; it was a police role."

"I don't think there was anything more SFOR could have done," said Bryant. "The security of the citizens rests with the local police and IPTF (International Police Task Force). We did our jobs as far as the GFAP (General Framework Agreement for Peace)."

"We were constantly on our toes making sure we were doing our job correctly and acting professional at all times," said Buticci. "We did what we needed to do."

PSYOP

from page 1

The team distributes 9,000 magazines every month to all towns in the Tuzla and Zivinice areas. They use two types of magazines, the Herald of Progress and MIRKO.

Both magazines are printed in the Bosnian language, using both the Latin and Cyrillic alphabets.

The Herald of Progress is a news magazine geared toward adults and produced by the Product Development Center in Sarajevo. MIRKO is a magazine targeted to young adults between the ages of 10 and 18.

"The magazines provide a variety of

messages that persuade individuals to comply with elements of the Dayton Peace Accord," said Gonzales.

"Many people have stated that they like

"Many people have stated that they like the SFOR news magazine because they feel it is objective, and they use it to compare what their own news media is saying,"

— Sgt. 1st Class Mark Gonzales

the SFOR (Stabilization Force) news magazine because they feel it is objective, and they use it to compare what their own news media is saying," said Gonzales.

PSYOP recently started radio programs in the Zivinice and Tuzla areas. The programs in Zivinice features Lt. Col. Jim Mason, Task Force 2-2 commander.

"We use the radio to get the message out to more people in a shorter amount of time," said Gonzales.

"Lieutenant Colonel Mason answers questions from the radio station journalists in a talk show format," said Gonzales. "We also allow call-in questions from the listening audience."

So far the radio programs have been well received by the citizens, said Gonzales. "They enjoy hearing SFOR's answers to important issues because they trust SFOR."